

COUGHLIN BABY DROWNED; NEW STORY VERIFIED

'The Crank' Tells Details and Police Find Evidence to Support Them.

ALSO SLEW A WOMAN

Prisoner Adds Confession of Murder of Mrs. Asherman of Philadelphia.

BODY OF BABY IS GONE

River Gives Up Only the Steel Rail Pasquale Used to Weight It Down.

Special Despatch to THE HERALD.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 12.—Details of the confession of Augustus Pasquale, "the Crank," to-day were made public by Major Lynn G. Adams of the State police.

The confession revealed how the "Crank" had murdered and robbed and finally had kidnapped the Coughlin baby in his checkered career of crime until he was apprehended in the kidnapping case.

Pasquale revealed the fact that he had smothered the Coughlin baby and had thrown the body into the Schuylkill River at a spot about two miles from the Coughlin home. It was the shrill cry of the infant, he said, sounding into the still night air, that first attracted the attention of the criminal as he walked by the Coughlin house, and led to the later abduction of thirteen months old Blakely.

Continued search of the river to which the "Crank" led the State policemen early this morning failed to reveal the body of the baby. A piece of railroad steel which the kidnapper said he had tied to the feet of the baby in order to make the body sink was uncovered, however, and it led to the belief that the "Crank" was at last telling the true story of the kidnapping.

The confession of the kidnapper, made to Major Adams on Sunday, was shrouded with the utmost secrecy in order to prevent the indignation of residents of Norristown from lynching the kidnapper of the Coughlin baby. It was in line with that theory that a digging party was sent to Egg Harbor, so that attention would be distracted from the actual spot where the "Crank" said he had thrown the body of Blakely into the river.

This morning Pasquale, heavily guarded, was taken to the banks of the Schuylkill, near the Coughlin home, and there he pointed out the spot at which he said he had deposited the body of the dead infant. He was quickly rushed back to the Norristown jail, while an expert diver was employed to recover the body of the baby from the waters of the Schuylkill. In addition, the confession of Pasquale uncovered the fact that he was the slayer of Mrs. Rose Asherman, who was found murdered in her bed, at 608 North Eighth street, on the morning of June 1. A heavy piece of slate was used to dispatch the woman, who awoke while Pasquale was in the act of robbing her. Pasquale said that the proceeds of that robbery were "about \$200."

All Hope of Recovery Gone.

When the continued search of the river failed to reveal the body of the child, the theory was advanced that the body of the child had disintegrated and would never be found. C. T. Laxer, a friend of the Coughlin family, and Capt. Samuel Gerhardt of the State police, to-day went out to consult with experts at the University of Pennsylvania on the supposition. There they were told that the body of a thirteen-month-old child probably would disappear in the time that has elapsed since the kidnapping of the child on June 2 and the present date.

"We never expect to recover the body of Blakely Coughlin," said Major Laxer, following his conference with the physicians at the university. "If what I have been told is true the body of Blakely has disappeared long ago."

One further detail of the confession was verified to-day when Capt. Samuel Gerhardt of the State police discovered remains of a fire the "Crank" said he had built to destroy the clothing in which the child was wrapped when he was abducted. The charred ground on which the fire was built was discovered at a spot about fifty yards from the place where Pasquale said he buried the baby, with an iron rail attached, into the Schuylkill.

One of the strange coincidences in connection with the later confession of Pasquale was revealed when the police said that they had arrested Pasquale for the murder of Mrs. Asherman, but had been forced to release him when a twelve-year-old girl, Bessie Erdman, failed to identify him. The child had slept with Mrs. Asherman on the night she was murdered, and later was arrested in connection with the case, finally being released.

The exact details of the confession were made public by Major Adams at Harrisburg to-day, following the trip of the "Crank" to the spot where he had said he had disposed of the body of the child. The baby, he maintained, was accidentally smothered to death when Pasquale became frightened at the sound of voices in the Coughlin home following the disappearance of the child. He ran from the scene of the crime, Pasquale said, with the baby concealed beneath his coat. When he gained the shelter of a nearby clump of trees he opened his coat, he said, only to find the baby had died.

"Glad It Is Over," Says Father.

Capt. Gerhardt, in ordering the river to cease his efforts to recover the body, said: "The case is now finished. We have obtained everything that is possible, as the child's body has apparently disappeared and melted into the waters of the Schuylkill."

George H. Coughlin, father of the child, said that he was greatly relieved to know the real fate of his child. "I am very much relieved now that the tension is broken," he said. "The suspense of living the rest of my life without the sure knowledge of the fate of my baby is settled. I am glad that it is over."

Pasquale will be given a hearing next week, according to Francis X. Renninger, the District Attorney in charge of the case. Mr. Renninger said that charges of first degree murder as well as kidnapping will be made against "the Crank." If found guilty, Pasquale faces electrocution.

The real object of Pasquale in going to Norristown was revealed by the authorities to-day. They said that he in-

tended robbing the slots on the telephones in the stations of the two railroad companies. It was said that circumstances prevented him from pilfering the coin boxes, and it was on his return to the city that he was first attracted to the Coughlin home by the cry of the baby.

Pasquale, it is said, did not know the name of the parents of the child he had stolen until he read of the kidnapping in the papers. Then he immediately sent the letter demanding the ransom money from Mr. Coughlin.

Pasquale sent for Major Adams on Sunday, asking him to tell of the kidnapping and death of the child.

The Crank's Story.

"It was on the 27th or 28th of May," he began, "that I had been out to Norristown and I missed the last car back to the city where I was boarding. I then started to walk from Norristown to the city line, where I could get a car. In walking back I passed the Coughlin home and I saw a light in one of the windows. I heard a baby cry and saw Mr. and Mrs. Coughlin standing in the room leaning over the baby's crib. I continued to the city line.

"I came back a couple of days later, however, having decided to kidnap the baby. I walked around the Coughlin house to see how I could get into the window. I recalled that I had seen some leaded glass in the window. I went there and got a ladder. "I climbed up the ladder to the window. There was a flower box at the foot of the window and I saw a small hole in the leaded glass. I put the coat about my shoulders and entered the child's room. While I was inside the room picking the baby up, he started to cry—not much—but I heard a voice around him and hurried out. I pressed him tightly to my breast as I started down the ladder. "As soon as I got to the foot of the ladder I heard voices and I could make out somebody talking inside the house. I started to run across some nearby trees. I ran past several houses on my way to the city line. I had only gone a short distance when I opened up my coat and blanket and looked at the baby. It was gone—I mean dead.

"Here the 'Crank' paused and cried out cringing, 'I did not intend to kill the baby. I was going to take it to Sweden, where I worked, and get a room there, in which I planned to hide the baby, until I collected the ransom money. When I saw the baby was dead, though, I decided to get rid of the body.

"I went down to the Schuylkill River and threw it in at a spot about two miles from the Coughlin home. I should judge, I first found a piece of railroad track there. It was about three feet long. I had a piece of string in my pocket, strong, brown, string, such as you tie a heavy bag with. It was about twice as thick as a shoe string, and I tied the rail to the baby's legs, and this string and then dropped it into the water."

Pasquale willingly assented to taking the State police to the spot where he said he had thrown the body into the river.

NO INDICTMENTS FOUND IN DANSEY BOY'S CASE

Two Persons Under Bonds, but Grand Jury Fails to Act.

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 12.—The Atlantic county Grand Jury has failed to find an indictment against any one for the disappearance of Billy Dansey, it was learned authoritatively here to-day.

Charles S. White and his housekeeper, Mrs. Edith J. Jones, now sue to have their bonds vacated. White is held under \$7,500 bond accused of the murder of the late Mrs. Jones under \$2,500 bond as accessory after the fact. Neither would comment on the news from the Grand Jury.

The fact that Edward C. Gaskill, County Prosecutor, did not have four of his principal investigators in the Dansey case called before the jury, however, leaves it within his power to reopen the case before another Grand Jury on the ground of additional evidence.

J. Ellsworth Jones, a relative of the Dansey family, said to-day that the Danseys are planning to leave New Jersey after they receive official notice of the action of the Grand Jury.

PLAN BIG COON OFFENSIVE.

Connecticut and Rhode Island Woods Reported Full.

PLAINFIELD, Conn., Oct. 12.—Coon hunters from all the large cities in Connecticut and Providence, Woonsocket and Pawtucket, R. I., are arranging to make a general raid on the woods of the section October 15, when the coon law goes off.

Never in recent years were coons so numerous, and they have become very bold and troublesome of late.

As many as six have been seen at one time in the hedges north of here.

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SLAIN IN SIGHT OF MATINEE THROGS

Police Scent Gang Feud in Killing Just Off Broadway in 39th Street.

VICTIM CALLED ROBBER

Slayer Says Three Men Tried to Hold Him Up and He Began Shooting.

Matinee crowds leaving theatres in West Thirty-ninth street, between Broadway and Sixth avenue, at 5 o'clock yesterday stopped calling taxicabs and began a frantic rush to safety when a revolver firing began to echo through the narrow thoroughfare. Women screamed and fainted or threw themselves into doorways and restaurant lobbies and men dodged and ran in every direction, and as the firing continued policemen at either corner regulating traffic quit their posts and rushed through the block to a point in front of the Pre-Catalan restaurant, where the shooting was being done.

Presently the smoke cleared, and any with nerve enough left to look could see the body of a man huddled on the sidewalk in front of the restaurant. Over him stood a policeman holding fast to a man who had dropped a smoking revolver. Up the block was coming another cop holding a second man.

Self-Defence, Stern Insists.

According to a story told Capt. Thomas Walsh of the West Thirtieth street station by William Stern of 212 West 11th street, the man found huddled on the sidewalk was a man named John J. Stern, the result of an attempted hold-up. Stern, the police said, has been known at Police Headquarters since 1911, when he was arrested for petty larceny. His story was taken down and he was detained.

The body of the man found at Stern's feet was identified as that of Paul Boltiano, thirty-four years old, of 137 West Sixty-seventh street. The police say he, too, is known to them as having been convicted of robbery in 1914. They said he spent from then until 1917 in Sing Sing Prison.

There were stories of a gang feud circulated through Thirty-ninth street following the shooting. But Stern stoutly maintained that he fired only when an attempt was made to rob him. To Capt. Walsh Stern said he was walking east on Thirty-ninth street when he was attacked. He was carrying \$1,500 worth of jewelry owned by a firm for which he works as a salesman, \$10 in cash and checks amounting to \$650. As he passed the Pre-Catalan and approached the entrance to the Princess Theatre he noticed in the crowd three men.

As he passed the building at 108, he said, he noticed the extremely narrow hallway and was wondering how any one could pass through it when he suddenly was pushed from behind. He knew he was being propelled toward the narrow hallway so that he could be robbed. "As I was pushed," he told the police, "I heard one of the men say 'Get in there and put up your hands.'"

Stern said he fought back. He wriggled from the grasp of one of his assailants and drew his gun. The men jumped back and he began to fire, he said.

The theatre crowds were passing on every side and Stern's shots, six in all, sung over the heads of women who dropped with fright. Some of the bullets spent themselves against the front of Maxine Elliott's Theatre across the street.

Shot Misses Fugitives.

Three of them found Boltiano and he dropped dead, shot once through the groin and twice through a shoulder. Stern started in pursuit of a second man who could be seen running toward Sixth avenue. He fired one shot at him and the bullet passed just above his head.

The second man was taken to the West Thirtieth street station and detained for examination. He said he was not near Stern when the firing began. He was not drinking an ice cream soda in a confectioner's down the block. His story was verified by the soda dispenser. He identified himself as Pasquale Miller, 39, of Farmdale, L. I.

His record was looked up, and it was found he bore singular resemblance to a Pasquale Miller who was sent to Sing Sing in 1917 for homicide.

Miller was held at a material witness.

FATHER BURIES TWO CHILDREN ALIVE

Michigan Farmer Explains He Could Not Support Them.

Special Despatch to THE HERALD. LANSING, Mich., Oct. 12.—Earl Roop, 51, a farmer living near here, walked into Sheriff Silbee's office yesterday evening and announced that he had murdered his two daughters.

Two hours later Coroner Floyd Estes accompanied Roop to his farm, where the bodies of the girls, Dorothy, 3, and Bernice, 2, were found under two feet of mud at the edge of the marshy Red Cedar River.

Roop said he had attempted to chloroform the children. Failing in that he buried them alive. Coroner Estes said death had been due to strangulation. Roop's wife is ill, and with a six day old infant is in a serious condition since being informed of the tragedy.

Apparently unmoved, Roop told the authorities he had worked hard all summer and failed to get ahead. His crop was not a success. He said he "believed" the children would be better off dead than alive.

"I took the girls with me to the field," he told the officers. "and then I chloroformed them with the drug I had obtained in Okemos. Immediately I got busy digging a hole in the old abandoned river bed. By that time the fresh country air had partly restored consciousness to them and the older girl walked to the hole while I carried the younger. I put them both in the hole and held their heads under water so they would not suffer. Then the mud and slime began to cover them and in soon they were both buried."

PRESIDENT CALLS HARD COAL WAGE CONFERENCE

Reopens Controversy and Asks Meeting on Oct. 18.

Special Despatch to THE HERALD.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The anthracite wage controversy is to be reopened and reconsidered at the behest of President Wilson. The President to-day notified representatives of the anthracite miners that he would require the holding of a joint session in Scranton on October 18 to adjust any inequalities in the recent wage award.

A conference several weeks ago by the anthracite operators and miners fixed the wage scale on the basis of that arrived at by the President's coal commission for the bituminous fields. Many miners took exception to the award and went out on strike. They returned when the President appealed to them to keep their agreement, promising justice. But President has been notified by officers of the union that the men were back, and in acknowledging the message he announced that he would request the new conference for the purpose of making such adjustments as equity seemed to demand.

WOOLLEN MILLS ON FULL TIME.

3,500 Workers Resume as Orders Start Coming In.

ONERO, Conn., Oct. 12.—Word was issued to 3,500 woollen mill employees to-day that the mills will go on full time schedule, beginning to-morrow. The mills have been operating on reduced time since July, when there was a slump in the buying market for goods. Orders are now said to be coming in slowly.

The workers are employed at the Ansonia Company Mills of Killingly, and in mills at Plainfield, Centre Village and other parts of the country.

CHICAGO SALOONISTS CONFESS RUM PLOT

Officials Hear How Large Quantities of Whiskey Are Shipped.

\$45,000 BRIBE IS GIVEN

Former Stock Broker of New York Also Admits His Big Operations in Liquor.

Special Despatch to THE HERALD.

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Startling revelations of the operations of a nation wide liquor ring with headquarters in New York were made to United States Attorney Clyde to-day when twelve saloonkeepers signed written confessions of their implication in the recent shipment from Louisville of 1,000 cases of whiskey on a forged permit. The confessions mention a former member of the Illinois Legislature as one of the intermediaries who arranged the deal. Another man mentioned is a revenue agent who has been under suspension for two months.

H. A. Sadler, a former New York stock broker, is declared to have confessed that he paid \$45,000 for help extended in obtaining a federal permit. Sadler arrived in Chicago from New York stock broker, is declared to have confessed that he paid \$45,000 for help extended in obtaining a federal permit.

Smallpox Holds Up LINER AT QUARANTINE

Nieuw Amsterdam Steamer Faces Long Wait.

The Holland-America liner Nieuw Amsterdam, in yesterday from Rotterdam, Boulogne and Plymouth, may be held in quarantine several days because of a case of smallpox among her 1,673 steerage passengers. Hoffman and Swinburne Islands are crowded with detained immigrants from other ships on which typhus and smallpox cases were discovered, and it may be necessary to keep the Nieuw Amsterdam's steerage passengers down the bay until room can be made for them on one of the islands or aboard a transport, for which Health Officer Leland E. Cofer has made application.

All the first and second cabin passengers, numbering 421, were landed in Hoboken last night from steam barges. All those not immunized among the 600 passengers who landed were vaccinated. Among them were Fritz Kautler, the violinist, who arrived here with Mrs. Kreisler for a concert tour.

Dr. Cofer applied several days ago to the War Department for a transport for emergencies, and the Lancaster was assigned, but she will not be fit for use for two weeks, and another vessel may be impossible into service to meet the present situation.

MAN FOUND IN BROOK, WEIGHTED WITH STONE

Absence of Water in Lungs Mystifies Police.

The Mount Vernon police were confronted with a mystery last night following the finding of the body of a man in a brook. A stone had been tied to his neck and he was under water, but despite the indications that he had been drowned Coroner Engle of Westchester county said there was no water in his lungs, a condition that would be present if death had been caused by drowning. The location of the body was in a woods, some distance from the Pelham Manor station.

Apparently the man had been dead a week when two boys who were out gathering mushrooms found the body. Men employed on construction work on the right of way of the Harlem River branch of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad were called from a shack a short distance away, but they could throw no light on the find. Nothing in the pockets of the dead man bore marks of identification.

WHAT'S A STRIKE? PENNA. ASKS

Official Committee Adjourns to Study Subject and Report.

HARRISBURG, Oct. 12.—A representative committee of three employers and three employees, with officials of the State Department of Labor and Industry acting in an advisory capacity, was asked to-day by the State Industrial Board to settle the question of what constitutes a strike. The board received a report on definitions of other States, and the Attorney-General's opinion that the State Employment Bureau should determine when a strike is in progress and be guided by the ruling of the Industrial Board. The committee will be asked to meet in Pittsburgh October 29.

Inspectors of the Department of Labor and Industry were directed to enforce to the letter the laws relative to seats for women in industry and seats will be ordered placed in elevators for women.

A MILD Winter—A no Calamity now

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